

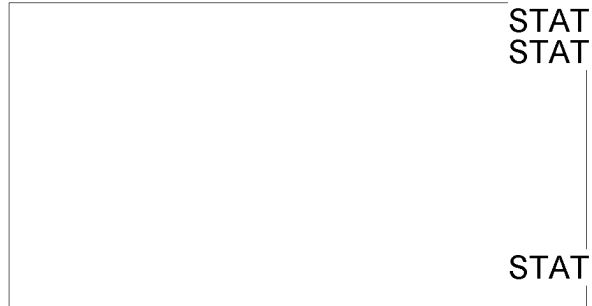
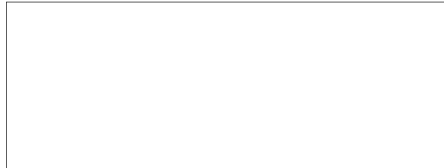
**CONFIDENTIAL**

**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION BRANCH**

**2430 R Street, N. W.**

**Washington 25, D. C.**

**April 15, 1948**



**VIA AIR POUCH to Cairo for forwarding to Cyprus**

**Dear [redacted]:**

I have your progress report of 27 March 1948 containing principally data concerning personnel. I have also a table prepared by [redacted] indicating his estimate of requirements for linguists. I believe you have seen this table.

Colonel White will undoubtedly authorize you to go ahead and plan recruiting on the basis of some such T/O as you suggest. I should like, however, to discuss it informally with you and to suggest minor changes to the extent that I can from this distance.

The divisional breakdown is, of course, somewhat arbitrary. For example, the Broadcast Information Section should constitute a staff section of the Chief in planning the work of both the Editorial and Monitoring Divisions. The Reference Section should serve the Monitoring and Editorial Divisions equally. The Transportation Section and Building Maintenance Section should probably take orders directly from the Administrative Officer more than from the Chief Engineer. These are formalistic considerations which really do not bear on your recruiting.

More pertinently it seems to me that you should be able to get along with a much smaller Administrative Division than you have indicated. It may not be possible to reduce this Division to nothing but the Administrative Officer and the Secretary to the Chief, as some Bureaus are doing, but I should think that one clerk typist, together with the Administrative Officer, could do the work you have indicated for three employees in Finance and Personnel, and Property and Supply. It may be that the three employees you have indicated for the Secretarial Section will be necessary for operational purposes, i.e., for retyping monitors' copy or cable copy.

In your Technical Division the Chief and Technical Maintenance Section coincide with the classified positions of Chief Engineer, Assistant Engineer and Maintenance Technician. I believe that at least one and perhaps two of the employees in your Technical Operations Section should be transferred to the Broadcast Information Section. It is true that at

0 0 2 0 4 0 1 0 0

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Col. Seely

**CONFIDENTIAL** April 15, 1948

other field offices this Section is represented by one cruising technician only, but such an arrangement is not satisfactory unless the cruising technician is a real HI fanatic and also works closely with the Chief, or Chief Engineer, in planning and scheduling coverage. On the other hand, four monitoring technicians in your Technical Operation Section should be able to provide twenty-four hour watch coverage with the help of the Assistant Engineer. It is of importance that cruisers not be absorbed into routine interception schedules.

I am not sure you will need three custodians in the Building Maintenance Section. Kamai Bureau, in spite of the fact that it provides housing for all employees, gets along with about one and half. Two employees on the West Coast are expected to perform the functions of both Transportation Section and Building Maintenance Section. Probably your three could be cut to two, at any rate.

In the Editorial Division I wonder whether one reference librarian might not be sufficient. Other Bureaus are using only part time of one employee for this purpose.

In your Monitoring Division, as I wrote earlier, I believe that six Morse men is much too ambitious for a starter. I do not think that the Mediterranean Bureau should take over any Morse coverage which HBC is providing—even though Mediterranean Bureau is taking responsibility for all voice coverage of the country in question, as in the case of Pirana AFA Morse—or which might be covered on the East Coast, but should concentrate on material which cannot be covered elsewhere. This means that until you have evidence of unique Morse material one or two Morse operators should be sufficient.

Your figures for linguists are considerably smaller than Swenson's in general, and it is difficult to judge from here just what will be required. I think that [ ] premise that adoption of Washington type operations will require more personnel is questionable, but his pointing out that locally hired persons are not as efficient as Americans is certainly pertinent. Probably a reconciliation of your figures and his will depend upon the degree of efficiency which the Bureau is able to develop. Specifically, [ ] believes that even on the basis of working from recordings, as is the present practice in Cairo, you will need linguists as follows:

Albanian 4 not 3	Rumanian 4 not 2
Arabic 8	Russian 6 not 4
Bulgarian 4 not 3	Serbo-Croat 3 not 2
Greek 6	Turkish 4 not 3
Persian 2	Czech/slovak 3 not 1/2
Hungarian 2	Hindustani and other Dialects 4 not 1/2
Polish 2 not 1/2	

00104820100

Col. Seely

April 15, 1948

I am inclined to believe that you may need 3 rather than 2 Rumanian and 3 rather than 2 Serbo-Croat monitors. It seems from here that your figures on the other linguists are more realistic, at least for a starter. If it should develop, for example, that you can hear more broadcasts in the Indian dialects, particularly on medium wave, than we anticipated, your staff could be increased accordingly.

Swanson lists also 4 English, 2 French, 2 Hebrew and 1 Slovene monitor. I believe he is right that you should provide coverage of area broadcasts in these languages, but believe that with the possible exceptions of English and Hebrew they could be taken care of on a part time basis by other monitors with secondary languages.

I hope that your conference in Cairo, together with suggestions from here, will enable you to arrive at a sound basis for your initial recruiting. [redacted] reports that there seems to be some possibility of recruiting in Lebanon. That is encouraging in view of the slim prospects on Cyprus and in Cairo.

Best of luck to you and regards.

Sincerely,

PKE:brg

[redacted]  
MOVING CHAIR, [redacted]

cc: [redacted]  
12- [redacted]

001080290